By-election in Meham, Haryana

1884. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are differences between the Election Commission and the Haryana Government over the holding of by-election to the Meham Assembly constituency of Haryana Legislative Assembly;

(b) if so, what are the respective views of the Election Commission and the Haryana Government in the matter; and

(c) by what date the election is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) There are no differences as such, between the Election Commission and the State Government of Haryana over the holding of bye-election o the Meham Assembly Constituency.

(c) The bye-election to the Meham Assembly Constituency is likely to be held in October, 1990.

Adverse effects of hike in foodgrain prices

1885. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent hike in foodgrain prices has squeezed the purchasing power of the fixed income group ;

(b) whether it has also affected the industrial growth ; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ADIL SHASTRI) : (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the increase in issue prices of rice and wheat under PDS. An increase in issue prices affects the fixed income groups to the texent that they draw their supply from the PDS as a proportion of their total consumption. However, such increases have little impact on the purchasing power of the workers in the organised sector as they are compensated for the price hike by an increase in DA which is linked to movement of Consumer Price Index of the Industrial Workers.

The increase in the wage bill, as a result of hike in prices of foodgrains, should have no effect on industrial production if the increase in nominal incomes keep up the effective demand.

Export of granite

1886. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI :

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total value of granite exported during each year from 1984-85 to 1988-89 ;

(b) what is the value of polished granite in such exports in each of these years ; and

(c) what steps Government have taken during these years to boost the export of polished granite and to earn more foreign exchange on such value added items ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN) : (a) and (b) Exports of cut granite blocks and granite polished slabs and tiles, yearwise,